

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-10, 13, 15-17, and 20 are pending, and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In view of this rejection, Applicant has amended the written description to make express reference to the *non-perforated* facing of the claimed hard armor composite.

The original disclosure fully supports the present amendment to the written description, and as such, the added language referencing a *non-perforated* facing is not considered "new matter." Specifically, Figures 1 and 2 of the original drawings show a *ceramic plate* 11 (indicated by conventional draftsman's "stippling") which forms the claimed *non-perforated facing*. See also ¶0037. Figure 1 shows a portion of the outer cover of the hard armor composite torn away (¶0032) to expose a stipple-shaded surface of the non-perforated facing, while Figure 2 shows the non-perforated facing in cross-section—also with conventional stippling indicating a ceramic material. Such stippling is a commonly used means of illustrating a solid ceramic material.

According to §608 of the M.P.E.P., "all amendments or claims must find descriptive basis in the original disclosure, or they involve new matter. Applicant may rely for disclosure upon the specification with original claims **and drawings**, as filed." [Emphasis added].

In the present case, the original drawings of the application (e.g., Figures 1 and 2, discussed above) offer a *sufficient descriptive basis* for amendment to the written description and claims. This amendment to add "non-perforated" in reference to the

composite facing is proper, and does not introduce new matter into the application.

For all these reasons discussed above, Applicant submits that all of the claims in the case are now in condition for allowance. Such action is therefore respectfully requested at an early date. If the Examiner believes that issues remain for discussion, she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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